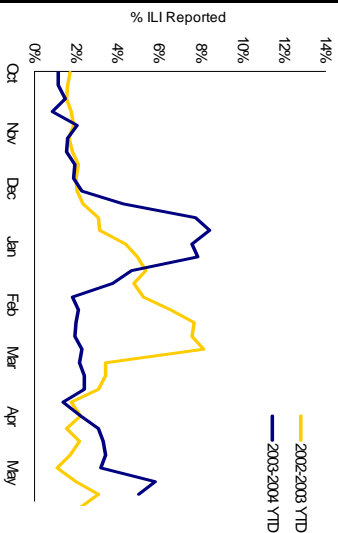


Become a Hawai'i Sentinel Physician

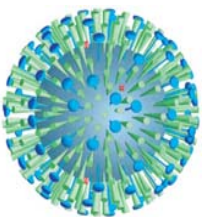
Comparison of Percent Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Seen in
Hawai'i Sentinel Physician Practices:
2003-04 and 2002-03 Season



Sentinel Physicians Report Influenza-like Activity seen in their practices. These data provide a vital 'real-time' picture of influenza-like illness in the community.

What is an Influenza SENTINEL PHYSICIAN?

An influenza sentinel physician conducts surveillance for influenza-like illness (ILI) in collaboration with Hawaii Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Data provided by sentinel physicians are combined with other influenza surveillance data to provide a national picture of influenza virus and ILI activity in the U.S. Approximately 25 physicians in Hawai'i were enrolled during the 2003- 04 influenza season.



Periodic shifts in the antigenic structure of the flu virus can be catastrophic.

What data do sentinel physicians collect? How and to whom are they reported?

During influenza season, which is year-round in Hawai'i, sentinel physicians report the total number of patient visits each week and number of patient visits for influenza-like illness by age group (0-4 years, 5-24 years, 25-64 years, ≥65 years). These data are transmitted once a week to a central data repository at CDC via the Internet, a touch-tone telephone, or fax. Most physicians report that it takes them **less than 30 minutes a week** to compile and report their data.

Who can be an Influenza Sentinel Physician?

Physicians of any specialty (e.g., family physicians, internists, pediatricians) in any type of practice (e.g., private practice, public health clinic, urgent care center, emergency room, student health center) are eligible to be influenza sentinel physicians.

Why Volunteer?

Influenza viruses are constantly evolving and cause substantial morbidity and mortality (approximately 20,000 deaths) almost every winter. The data sentinel physicians provide are critical for monitoring the impact of influenza which guides prevention and control activities, vaccine strain selection, and patient care. Sentinel physicians receive feedback on the data submitted, summaries of regional and national influenza data, and preliminary information via email and letters. The most important consideration is that you provide critical support for public health in Hawai'i

Sentinel Physician Enrollment Form

Please fax to the Department of Health
(808) 586-4595

Check one: ☐ M.D. ☐ D.O. ☐ R.N.

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Practice Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Zip Code: _____ State: HI

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-Mail address: _____

Specialty: (check one)

- ☐ Family Practice
- ☐ Internal Medicine
- ☐ Pediatrics
- ☐ Emergency Medicine

You will also receive FREE
subscriptions to CDC's Morbidity and
Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) AND
Emerging Infectious Diseases.

Rapid tests and viral culture
collection kits for influenza are available from participating commercial laboratories to assist in the evaluation of your patients through a special project supported by the Hawaii State Department of Health (HDOH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Rapid Influenza Antigen Tests:

- Quick turnaround time
- Support clinical diagnosis
- Improve patient management
- Testing usually covered by insurance (Performed by commercial laboratory)

Viral cultures:

- Determine circulating influenza strains
- Detects seven other respiratory viruses
- Provide information for vaccine development
- **NO CHARGE TO PATIENT**



Participating commercial laboratories utilize Directigen A&B® Rapid Antigen Tests which differentiate between Influenza Types A and B, this can assist in choice of antiviral treatment.

FREE specimen collection materials and further details can be obtained by calling these participating labs:

*** Clinical Laboratories of Hawaii (CLH)**

*** Diagnostic Laboratory Services (DLS)**

*** Kaiser Permanente STAT Lab**
(for Kaiser Members only)

*** Straub Tilden Laboratory**



**Hawaii
Department
of Health**

Disease Outbreak Control Division

**1132 Bishop St,
Suite 1900
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone: (808) 586-4586**

For more information call: (808) 586-4586

Hawai'i Influenza Surveillance

**Help the Hawai'i
Department of Health with
Emergency Pandemic
Preparedness and...**

Fight Influenza!

**Become a Hawai'i
Sentinel Physician!**

**COLLECT culture
specimens from your
patients**

**Obtain FREE influenza
virus cultures!**

